REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, and claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, and 19 have been amended. Accordingly, claims 1-21 are pending and under consideration.

Objection to Claim 7

The Office Action objects to claim 7 and requests correction of a typographical error. Applicant amends claim 7 to obviate this objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claim 1 Under 35 U.S. C. §102(b)

The Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,279,056 issued to Jacobs et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Jacobs"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Jacobs does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "an inputting unit comprising a touchpad and a plurality of touchpad selection buttons," as recited in claim 1.

As noted in point 9 of the Office Action, Jacobs does not disclose a touchpad. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited reference. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 2-21 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 2-21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs in view of U.S. Patent 6,414,675 issued to Shen. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Jacobs and Shen, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "an inputting unit comprising a touch pad and a plurality of touch pad selection buttons for inputting movement and selection of a pointing cursor when the power switch is in an "ON" state, wherein each touch pad selection button of the inputting unit has a selection inputting function in response to a plurality of operations of the optical device drive when the power switch is in an "OFF" state, " as recited in claim 1.

As noted in point 9 of the Office Action, Jacobs does not disclose a touch pad. Although Shen discloses a touch pad, the CD control panel 60 shown in Figure 3 controls the CD drive 58 (col. 3, lines 42-45 of Shen). The CD control panel is not an input device for inputting movement and selection of a pointing curser when the power switch is in an "ON" state. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claim 1 is patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and include all of the features of claim 1 plus additional features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 2-7 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Jacobs and Shen, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "a plurality of touch pad input button switches to generate a signal based on a user input;... a bus switching unit to supply the signal to the optical device driver to control an optical device if the system power is disabled and to supply the signal to the touch pad control unit to control a curser if the system power is enabled," as recited in claim 8.

Jacobs and Shen do not disclose touch pad input button switches, which are used to perform different functions depending on whether system power is disabled or enabled. Instead, Jacobs does not disclose touch pad input button switches, and Shen's control panel 60 does not disclose touch pad input button switches, which produce a signal to be routed to a touch pad control unit. Instead, Shen's control panel 60 only controls a CD drive 58. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claim 8 is patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Claims 9-13 depend from claim 8 and include all of the features of claim 8 plus additional features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 9-13 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Jacobs and Shen, taken separately or in combination, do not disclose, teach, or suggest at least, "generating a signal based on a user input via a plurality of touch pad input button switches; and supplying the signal to an optical device driver to control an optical device if the system power is disabled, and supplying the signal to a touch pad control unit to control movement of a pointing cursor if the system power is enabled," as recited in claims 14 and 19.

As discussed above, Jacobs and Shen do not disclose a touch pad or touch pad button switches. In addition, Shen's control panel 60 does not generate a signal based on touch pad input button switches where the signal is supplied to a touch pad control unit to control movement of a pointing cursor if the system power is enabled. Therefore, for at least these reasons claims 14 and 19 are patentably distinguishable from the prior art.

Dependent claims 15-18 and 20-21 depend from independent claim 14 or independent claim 19 and include all of the features of their respective independent claim plus additional features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, for at least these reasons, claims 15-18 and 20-21 are also patentably distinguishable from the cited references.

Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Summary

Claims 1-21 are pending and under consideration. It is respectfully submitted that none of the references taken alone or in combination disclose the present claimed invention.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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